

## **JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION**

### **1. Nature and/or Description of Action**

The Defense Threat Reduction Agency contracting activity proposes to procure without using full and open competition to create tools and build capacity for global implementation of the International Health Regulations (IHR) 2005.

### **2. Description of the Supplies/Services Required**

Conduct a series of six legislative workshops in select Middle East countries to apply the tools already developed under the existing contract to work with partner countries to assess existing legislation related to detection and response to zoonotic diseases, conduct a gap analysis to determine where the partner countries need to strengthen the legislative and regulatory infrastructure, and identify a path forward for the development and implementation of necessary legislation and regulations.

Candidate countries for these workshops include Iraq, Jordan, Turkey, Egypt, Afghanistan and Lebanon.

### **3. Statutory Authority**

The statutory authority for this non-competitive action is:

10 United States Code (U.S.C.) 2304(c)(1) or 41 U.S.C. 253(c)(1), as implemented by FAR 6.302-1, Only One Responsible Source.

### **4. Applicability of Authority**

The basis of the legislative workshops is the unique experience and the tool that was developed by Dr. Katz's research group at George Washington University, soon to relocate to Georgetown University. This team has unique experience and knowledge of the International Health Regulations (2005) (IHR) as well as required legislative instruments to implement the regulations in a resource-constrained environment. Additionally, the team developed a tool with DTRA funding for Ministries of Health to use in order to accurately assess costs of IHR implementation in each of the core capacities in their own country, using their own set of inputs. This ensures that the countries have sufficient national level legislation for disease surveillance and response, and can meet their national obligations under the Biological Weapons Convention and United Nations Security Council (UNSCR) 1540.

The experience that Dr. Katz and colleagues gained in developing the tool and conducting workshops in developing nations in other regions makes them uniquely qualified to execute these planned workshops. These workshops require partner country consent and a collaborative relationship with key government stakeholders. Partner countries will need to appoint the

appropriate personnel to the workshops, provide visas for visiting personnel, and implement the legislative actions identified as a result of the workshops.

This research group has existing relationships with the World Health Organization and the experience required for navigating the complex requirements of developing country bureaucracies to gain buy-in for the execution of the workshops and acceptance of the recommendations for legislative changes.

## **5. Effort to Solicit Potential Sources**

A Federal Business Opportunities (FedBizOps) notice was not published. In accordance with FAR5.202 (a)(11), the proposed contract action is made under the terms of an existing contract that was previously synopsisized in sufficient detail to comply with the requirements of 5.207 with respect to the current proposed contract action.

## **6. Fair and Reasonable Costs**

The anticipated cost/price of this contract action to the Government will be determined to be fair and reasonable based on historical data and input/evaluation from the project office.

## **7. Market Research**

- a. Contacting knowledgeable individuals in Government and industry regarding market capabilities to meet requirements.
- b. Reviewed the results of recent market research undertaken to meet similar or identical requirements in the DTRA Market Research Repository. No similarly qualified providers were identified.
- c. Queried the Governmentwide database of contracts and other procurement instruments intended for use by multiple agencies available at <https://www.contractdirectory.gov/contractdirectory/> and other Government and commercial databases that provide information relevant to agency acquisitions. No additional qualified performers were identified.
- d. Reviewed catalogs and other generally available product literature published by manufacturers, distributors, and dealers or available on-line. Some specific sources reviewed were:

WHO Regional Workshop on Public Health Legislation for International Health Regulations: [http://www.searo.who.int/regional\\_director/speeches/2013/8\\_apr\\_2013/en/](http://www.searo.who.int/regional_director/speeches/2013/8_apr_2013/en/)

NIH funded workshop on implementation of IHR for “countries with federal systems of government:” <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2647397/pdf/07-042838.pdf>

Collection of latest research on IHR compliance: <http://www.stimson.org/topics/global-health/international-health-regulations/>.

## 8. Other Facts

Solicitation through other sources would result in approximately \$560,000 in additional cost to the government and would impact the implementation of the strategic engagement plan for each of the countries. The cost to the government that would be duplicated is based on the cost for another performer to establish the existing relationships and familiarity with the tool that this research team has developed, derived from the actual costs from contract execution.

## 9. Interested Sources

None.

## 10. Subsequent Actions

Prior to executing any additional actions, the requirements will be advertised and further market research will be undertaken.

## Technical Certification

I certify that the data and information forming the basis for this justification are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[Redacted Signature]

Project Manager

Date

## Contracting Officer Certification

I certify that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[Redacted Signature]

Contracting Officer ( $\leq$ \$550K)

Date